

# Kane County Economic Events

***Updated 10/11/03***

Kanab's fifth annual Western Legends Roundup, celebrating Kanab's heritage and a history of being a favorite location of western movie makers was held recently. A parade made its way down Center Street complete with a herd of longhorn cattle, covered wagons and a Ford Model-T converted into a pickup truck, its spark plugs connected with barbed wire. More than 100 booths selling everything from newly made saddles to Western art lined Main and Center streets as barbecue smoke drifted and strains of "Tumbling Tumbleweeds" by the Bar-G-Wranglers came from one of two entertainment stages set up for the four-day festival. The roundup, which attracted about 4,500 visitors on Friday and Saturday, also featured educational workshops and demonstrations about history of the area, Dutch oven cooking, antique machinery and photography. The lonely life of the cowboy could also be heard about in verse at regularly scheduled cowboy poetry rodeos. *Salt Lake Tribune, 8/25/03*

Garkane Energy has proposed to purchase the Kanab City municipal power system, which would bring a major addition to the far-flung cooperative electric provider. Information in the current issue of Garkane's publication "Highlights" outlines a proposal made to Kanab City officials that states the acquisition would provide an immediate 30 percent to 35 percent electric use rate reduction. Carl Albrecht, Garkane general manager and CEO, said that if Kanab City accepts the offer, the bonded indebtedness on Kanab's power system would be paid in full, the city's loans from the Utah associated Municipal Power Systems will be assumed by Garkane and paid over time, and the power department's loan from the city's general fund would also be paid in full. Garkane would also perform maintenance work and tree trimming in the community. *Salt Lake Tribune, 8/12/03*

Kane County Hospital is getting a new ambulance, valued at nearly \$98,000. Funding came from an \$83,000 grant from the state Permanent Community Impact Fund Board and \$25,000 from a state EMS grant. The new vehicle will include state-of-the-art equipment, including sophisticated cardiac monitors. *Salt Lake Tribune, 7/9/03*

The Big Water Fire Department has been awarded a \$72,000 grant from the U.S. Fire Administration, a division of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The grant was included in the fourth round of what will total approximately 7,000 grants worth \$750 million in direct assistance to firefighters from the 2003 Assistance to Firefighter Grant program to help local fire departments. *Salt Lake Tribune, 7/5/03*

The federal government has designated the entire state of Utah a natural disaster area as a result of prolonged drought conditions, insect infestations and high winds. The designation makes farmers in all 29 counties eligible to be considered for low-interest emergency loans from the Farm Service Agency. Utah is in its fifth year of drought, and the USDA's Palmer drought index ranked the state the nation's driest. What's being offered is low-interest loans and possible future assistance when it is made available by federal and state agencies. *Deseret News*, 7/2/03

In honor of Maynard Dixon's growing reputation and importance as an American artist, the Thunderbird Foundation has taken the first steps toward building a privately funded museum next to the Dixon summer home in Mt Carmel. The budget has been set at \$5 million, with a five-year building plan. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/29/03

An open house was held at the new Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Kanab Visitor Center, hosted by the Bureau of Land Management. Located at 745 East Highway 89 in Kanab, the 7,500-square-foot building is just west of the Holiday Inn Express. Permanent exhibits are being planned and will be installed by next spring. Currently, temporary exhibits display the talents of five regional artists. *The Spectrum*, 6/23/03

The Rural Development Office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded the Kane County Water Conservancy District more than \$2.8 million to upgrade water systems in the area of Duck Creek Village on Cedar Mountain. The conservancy district will combine a grant for \$1.1 million with a \$1.76 million loan to drill a deep well, construct a storage tank and install water distribution lines. The project will consolidate four private water systems and incorporate them into the conservancy district, which will offer 570 water connections capable of serving 1,700 residents. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/20/03

Local communities will soon benefit from a grant distributed by the Utah Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security. Region IV, which includes Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane and Washington counties, received \$375,005 from the state homeland security grant, part of nearly \$3.9 million awarded across the state. The 2003 grant came from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Office of Domestic Preparedness, according to a news release from the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Services and Homeland Security. Region IV decided to use the money awarded to them to improve communications devices and purchase communication devices to allow cities to speak with other cities -- like St. George to Beaver. *The Spectrum*, 6/13/03

Lake Powell has been recognized as the second-best beach in the United States, as part of Men's Journal's July feature story, "Perfect Summer: The World's Best Beaches and Beach Bars." Others on the list include Laguna Beach, Calif.; Brazil's Morro de Sao Paulo beach, North Carolina's Outer Banks and St. Bart's. *Deseret News*, 6/13/03

The Kane County Water Conservancy District received a U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development grant for \$1.1 million and loan for \$1.7 million to drill a new well, construct a water storage tank and install water distribution lines. This project will consolidate four private water systems and incorporate them into the KCWCD. Once the systems are combined, KCWCD will have 570 connections to service approximately 1,710 people living in rural Kane County. This project will provide funds to drill a deep well that will provide a reliable, ample supply of water during normal years as well as drought years, and allow completion of a new water storage tank. The improvements are needed to meet Utah State Division of Drinking Water guidelines for fire flow, quality and water storage. *The Spectrum, 6/6/03*

People came to Kanab from as far away as Massachusetts and England and from as near as Sandy and St. George for a "Greyhound Gathering." A love for the breed was not the only thing the 400 greyhounds and 383 humans in attendance had in common. The long-legged guests of honor had all been rescued from racing tracks and were facing dismal futures, or even death, before being adopted by their loving owners. *The Spectrum, 5/11/03*

The Utah Permanent Community Impact Board has awarded a \$105,000 loan to Glendale for the reconstruction 1.1 miles of streets. *Salt Lake Tribune, 4/7/03*

The Lake Powell ferry service between Bullfrog Marina and Hall's Crossing has resumed. The ferry service was suspended March 3 to allow docks to be relocated to Hobie Cat Beach at Bullfrog. *Salt Lake Tribune, 3/30/03*

Salt Lake-based Zions Bank announced it will create a second customer service center in Kanab. Designed to handle operations if the bank's main facility in West Valley city were knocked out, the Kanab center will add 40 new jobs this year, with a total of 70 jobs expected within three years. The service center jobs will pay between \$9 and \$10 an hour. *Deseret News, 3/22/03*

Kanab is considering selling its city-owned power system to GarKane, the rural electrical cooperative in south-central Utah. If the Kanab City Electric Distribution System sells, the city would seek a franchise arrangement. The city is also considering opening the sale to other potential buyers. *Salt Lake Tribune, 3/18/03*

The Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration has received a donation of 400 acre-feet of water rights in Kane County from AMCA Coal Leasing Inc., a subsidiary of ANDALEX Resources, Inc. no longer needs the water since the demise of its plans for coal mining on the Kaparowits Plateau, which became part of the Grand Staircase-Escalante Monument in 1996. *Salt Lake Tribune, 2/26/03*

Construction has begun on the 190-seat Crescent Moon Theater in Kanab. The theater will be home to a western music and variety show six nights a week during the May-October tourist season. *Salt Lake Tribune, 2/2/03*

The Board of Business and Economic Development approved Industrial Assistance Fund incentives to a financial services company that may create 70 new jobs in Kane County. The name of the business was not disclosed, but the financial company is considering plans to open a customer service center in Kanab. *Deseret News*, 1/18/03

A new study says the amount of "economically recoverable" oil and liquid natural gas in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument would provide only enough material to last the U.S. three hours and 42 minutes. *Deseret News*, 10/29/02

Rural Utah counties preparing budgets for next year may face cutbacks in federal PILT funds. Since 1977, the federal government has provided "payment in lieu of taxes" funds to counties with large tracts of nontaxable federal land. The federal budget for 2003 has yet to be approved, and President Bush wants to cut PILT money by 23.5 percent. Utah is fifth in the nation in PILT funding, behind California. In 2002, Utah received more than \$16 million. *Deseret News*, 10/15/02

The Kanab Fire Department has received a \$58,000 grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for fire operations and firefighter safety programs. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 10/10/02

Utah ranchers, hit hard by drought, will soon receive millions of dollars in immediate federal aid. The U.S. Department of Agriculture announced it would release \$752 million in cash to relieve drought-stricken livestock in 37 states. Utah is one of seven states that has declared a statewide drought disaster, and therefore, will qualify for a large share of the money. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 09/20/02

Big Water has received \$250,000 in grants and loans from the Community Impact Board to pave seven miles of streets. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 8/8/02

Plans are under way in Glendale for a second co-op store along U.S. 89 that will display wares of local artists and craftmakers. The Long Valley Co-op, through the Utah Heritage Highway 90 alliance, received a \$15,000 grant from the U.S. Forest Service to open the Apple Valley facility. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 7/20/02

The Kanab City Library has received an \$11,010 grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The library must use these funds to expand public access to computers and the internet. *Salt Lake Tribune*, 6/27/02